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ROUND 24 - 1995/96 Ericsson Cup
SOUTH MELBOURNE v MORWELL FALCONS
Wednesday 20th March 1996 THE TOOHEYS CUP

ROUND 26 - 1995/96 Ericsson Cup
SOUTH MELBOURNE v CANBERRA COSMOS
Sunday 24th March 1996

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**South Melbourne
Hellas Soccer Club**

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EDITORIAL



Dancing with the corner flag

WHEN DOES a sport cross the line of entertainment and into the realms of unsporting behaviour?

For me the answer is quite clear - anything which causes enjoyment for one set of fans, and of course players, without deliberately provoking the others is pure entertainment, anything else isn't.

Fair enough, nothing too controversial in that - and, heaven knows, that anyone who reads my editorials knows that I'm NOT the controversial sort

BUT - I've just read the latest from FIFA - and they're at it again.

I'm fed up to the eyeballs seeing Aussie players getting booked for crossing the bye line to celebrate scoring. I know that it is a FIFA edict and is meant to stop any crowd trouble but, really, all that the players are doing is running to their own fans.

And if it is good enough for Australian football then why can't the same spoil-sport rule apply to the English and Italian games as well. Anyone who watches those leagues on TV will tell you that you could do a cartwheel behind the goal at White Hart Lane or the San Siro and get away with it.

So what about the now-famous corner flag samba or field-train that some teams have turned into mini works of art? These pieces probably get as much attention at practice as corners and other set pieces do - and some of them are really brilliant.

And they are fun - for everyone. I always thought that it was a bit of FIFA double dealing that a

player could get booked for running over the line but nothing happens if he dances with the corner flag.

Well, now FIFA are turning their attention to that as well, although they are leaving it up to the referee's discretion. Come on, Smurfs of Zurich - you tie the refs up inside out in red tape and rules, take away any real discretion they have and now you are copping out of it by tossing it back in their faces. And just to make it even harder for them to gain experience FIFA has announced the official reduction of entry to the FIFA list to the age of thirty nine.

THIRTY NINE - what kind of experience is anyone going to have by that age?

Maybe the time isn't that far off that someone is going to take the world governing body to the Court of Human Rights for discrimination against age.

And if that sounds stupid what about Marc Bosman - that has really sorted out our ancient and stupid anti-social transfer strangulation rules.

Me, I love it when a striker smashes the ball into the back of the net and runs past the goal line with his arms outstretched.

But then I also love the trains and flag dances.

Maybe I'm just one of those trouble makers who only goes along to a match for a bit of fun - and we all know that that won't do.

I suppose that we can all hope that the referees really do use their discretion, that seems to be our only glimmer.

Forget the maths



SOUTH MELBOURNE skipper Paul Trimboli (pictured right) says that it is time to stop talking about the mathematical possibilities of grabbing a Top Six place – and to start winning points.

"That's right," says the ball player.

"It's no good talking about what we can do if we don't do it.

"There are enough points available for us to get into the finals but first we have to win them.

"To do that we have to play well enough on a regular basis – if we don't, then we just won't make it."

That ominous message is even more apparent in view of tonight's opponents, Morwell Falcons, a side which Trimboli has enormous respect for.

Since the Latrobe side came into the big league they have almost developed a 'derby' relationship with South Melbourne and games have often been fought to the bitter end.

"They are always tough opponents," Paul says, "and that couple of wins they got will have shot their confidence up again.

"In the past the games have been very tough and tonight it is sure to be an even money bet once again."

While the skipper paints a realistic picture on the task ahead, he doesn't have any quick fix solution.

"Honestly, if there was one we would have worked it all out by now," he says.

"We have played a bit of Jekyll and Hyde soccer this year –



maybe it's our inexperience, maybe it's our inconsistency.

"I don't really know what the answer is but we have to impress ourselves before we can start putting together a sequence of wins because if we don't then we will only go backwards.

"I'm sure that there are hundreds of 'experts' out there who know better than us, but we'll just have to do it the hard way."

This year the club has drafted in almost an entirely new squad, building for the future.

Paul Trimboli sees that as the

future of the club, especially if the young stars are around long enough to develop together.

"Look at Steve Panopoulos," he says.

"Most people think he is a lot older than what he is because he has been around so long.

"But he is still a youngster and I consider him to be one of our best players this season.

"Blatsis, Alsopp and Baser are all new to me this year but they have done really well and look to have great futures.

"Tansell Baser came out of our youth team but I really didn't get a chance to see much of him last year so he is as new to me as the others.

"But they have the kind of potential which will serve the club well.

"Then just look at Mike Petkovic - he has been a revelation in goals.

"I know that it has been hard on Dean Anastasiadis sitting it out but Deano has the right attitude and is training hard waiting for his chance again."

That sort of attitude typifies the



current squad and if they can get it together, and play with consistency, then they could well start the kind of roll which will take them into the Top Six.

And Paul Trimboli would be happy if everyone put away their calculators - starting with a win tonight.

Bruce Campbell

In Blue & White reader Jenny Arvanitis sent Paul Trimboli a Happy Birthday message which unfortunately arrived too late for our last edition - so Paul all the best from Jenny, your number one fan and friend.

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SOCCER is often a controversial game. Maybe it's the competitive nature of the sport that sees it hit the headlines but whatever the reason it seems that no sooner has one issue been dealt with than there is another hot potato being tossed about.

The latest is the amount of 'overtime' that players are being currently put through with five, eight, ten or even twelve minutes of injury time being common.

Maybe 'stoppage' time is also a more correct term but whatever name you use what it means for the players is that they have to bring their fitness level up to another mark just to cope.

Often, extra, or stoppage time favours a more experienced team and how many times have we seen a team of old veterans claw



PHOTO: Tony Gavradinas

Maybe it's time to turn on the clock

their way back from the death in the dying stages.

There is no question of South Melbourne not being fit enough to last the full '100 minutes' - because the back room staff has been astute enough to take care of that possibility.

But with so many younger players there is another question, that of concentration.

Maybe, also there is the uncertainty of not knowing when the clock is going to stop.

Other sports have different solutions with Aussie Rules using the stop clock method.

"We don't allow clocks to be used on scoreboards in the Ericsson Cup," says ASF official, Vicki Juric.

"The rules just don't permit that at all."

And in fact the ASF has gone as

far as to tell one club to turn its public scoreboard clock off.

But West Adelaide coach Raul Blanco has hit back with a suggestion which might be a sensible compromise - and ease the tension with fans and players alike.

It seems that in South America the referees give an indication, by holding up fingers, of how many minutes they are adding to the game when a stoppage occurs.

That would take away a lot of the doubt.

It would also allow players to pace themselves a little better when the game enters its closing stages.

Maybe it would also take away constant suggestions that some referees are favouring particular teams.

That has always been a

complaint by fans but it is unlikely in this modern age of video playbacks that there is any substance to that other than looking for a scapegoat.

Maybe the signalling of extra time would also allow players to maintain their concentration and for young teams like South Melbourne not to get hit with sucker blows to more experienced rivals.

But maybe the easiest way is just to install the Rules style scoreboard clocks.

After all, why re-invent the wheel. Their system clearly works while ours clearly doesn't.

Maybe it's time, pardon the pun, to take a leaf out of another sporting book.

Ask the South players - there wouldn't be much argument from them.

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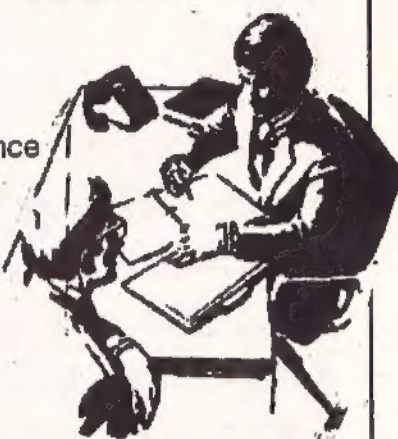
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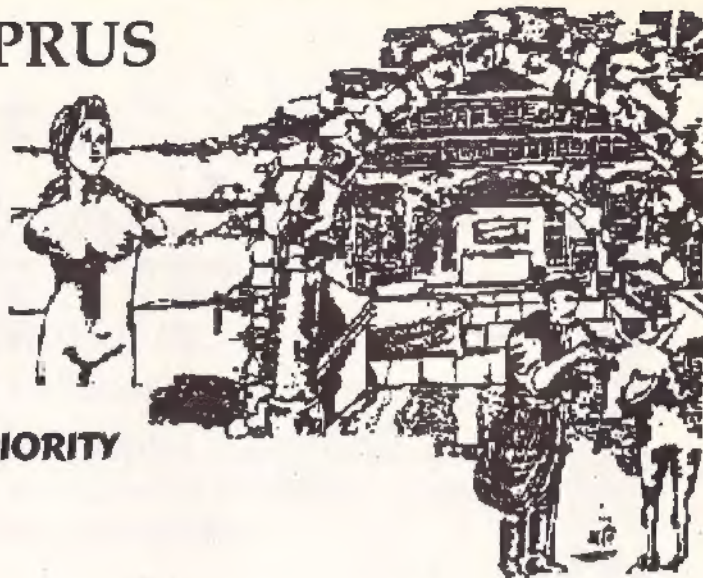
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BANK OF CYPRUS : A HUNDRED YEARS AHEAD

Match Details

ROUND 25: v Adelaide City (away) 17 March

LOST: 1-2

SCORER: Coveny

A: 4,111

SM: Petkovic, Kuzmanovic (Orlic 73), Panopoulos, Coveny, Trimboli, Damianos, Petersen, Knezevic, Baser, Curcija (Anthopoulos), Muscat

Referee: E Lennie

Yellow Cards: Petersen, Knezevic, Muscat

ROUND 24: deferred match

ROUND 23: v Melbourne Knights (away) 10 March

DREW 1-1

SCORER: Michael Curcija

Att: 7,140

SM: Petkovic, Blatsis, Kuzmanovic, Panopoulos, Trimboli, Petersen, Knezevic, Curcija, Alsopp (Lewis 46 - Baser 84), Muscat, Orlic

Referee: E Lennie

Yellow Cards: Blatsis, Panopoulos, Petersen, Muscat

Red Cards: Blatsis

ROUND 22: v Newcastle Breakers (away) 1 March

LOST 2-4

SCORERS: Daminaos, Orlic

Att: 2,621

SM: Petkovic, Blatsis, Kuzmanovic, Panopoulos (Damianos 63), Trimboli, Sherifovski (Baser 45), Petersen, Knezevic (Curcija 45), Muscat, Orlic, Alsopp

Referee: G Connolly

Yellow Card: Blatsis

ROUND 21: v Brisbane Strikers (home) 25 February

DREW 0-0

Att: 5,341

SM: Petkovic, Kuzmanovic, Anthopoulos (Baser 77, Coveny, Sherifovski, Damianos, Petersen (Nikolic 73), Knezevic, Baser, Alsopp (Curcija 46), Petkovic, Orlic

Referee: B Hugo

Yellow Card: Orlic



TARGETMAN: Vaughan Coveny got South Melbourne's goal against Adelaide City

PHOTO: Tony Gavradinas

INTERESTED IN WRITING?

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quarterly newsletter

enquiries to:
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TOOHEYS BLUE

Hot Shots

ERICSSON CUP THE TOP MARKSMEN

25	Damien MORI (Adelaide City)
17	Kris TRAJANOVSKI (UTS Olympic)
13	Jim TSEKINIS (West Adelaide)
12	Frank FARINA (Brisbane Strikers)
11	Paul WADE (Canberra Cosmos)
10	Rod BROWN (Brisbane Strikers)
10	Francis AWARITEFE (Marconi-Fairfield)
10	Andy HARPER (Marconi-Fairfield)
9	Bradley HASSELL (Adelaide City)
7	Jason BENNETT (Newcastle Breakers)
7	Ivan KELIC (South Melbourne)
7	Tony PERINICH (Wollongong Wolves)

On The Card

ERICSSON CUP

ROUND 26

Friday

Wollongong City v Sydney United

Saturday

Brisbane Strikers v Newcastle Breakers

Marconi-Fairfield v Morwell Falcons

Sunday

South Melbourne v Canberra Cosmos

UTS Olympic v Adelaide City

West Adelaide v Melbourne Knights

the next

Ericsson Cup Matches at Bob Jane Stadium

v

Canberra Cosmos

Sunday, 24 March 1996

KICK OFF 7.00pm

v

Wollongong City

Wednesday, 27 March 1996

KICK OFF 7.00pm

1995/96 SOUTH MELBOURNE STATS

Best Crowd:

13,956 v West Adelaide (Home) - Round 9

Best Home Crowd:

13,956 v West Adelaide (Home) - Round 9

Total Home Crowds:

81,175 (11 games)

Average Home Crowd:

7,352

95/96 Ericsson Cup Top Crowd:

13,956 South Melbourne v West Adelaide - Round 9

*All figures are based on official ASF records and not those reported in the press.

ERICSSON CUP PLAYER APPEARANCES

10	Alsopp
15	Anastasiadis
16	Anthopoulos
15	Baser
12	Blatsis
19	Coveny
06	Curcija
19	Damianos
07	Davidson
05	Duric
16	Kelic
07	Knezevic
21	Kuzmanovic
17	Lewis
02	Lilikakis
07	Mangos
05	Muscat
14	Nikolic
06	Orlic (plus 16 for Olympic)
19	Panopoulos
04	Papadopoulos
23	Petersen
07	Petkovic
14	Sherifovski
22	Trimboli
11	Valkanis
TOTAL: 27 players	

GOAL SCORERS:

07	Ivan KELIC
07	Paul TRIMBOLI
05	Vaughan COVENY
04	Steve PANOPOULOS
04	Bill DAMIANOS
02	Michael CURCIJA
02	Agim SHERIFOVSKI
01	Daniel ALSOPP
01	Con BLATSIS
01	Craig LEWIS
01	Steve MANGOS
01	Nick ORLIC



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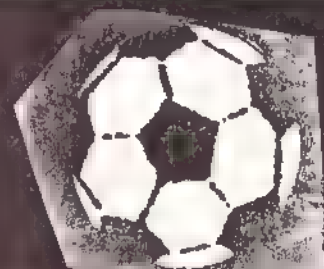
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SOUTH MELBOURNE

THE BLUES SQUAD

- 1 Dean Anastasiadis
- 2 Con Blatsis
- 3 Steve Mangos
- 4 Alek Kuzmanovic
- 5 Mike Valkanis
- 6 Con Anthopoulos
- 7 Steve Panopoulos
- 8 Vaughan Coveney
- 9 Paul Trimboli (C)
- 10
- 11 Agim Sherifovski
- 12 Bill Damianos
- 13 Craig Lewis
- 14 Michael Petersen
- 15 Jean-Paul Knezevic
- 16 Tansell Baser
- 17 Sasa Nikolic
- 18 Michael Curcija
- 19 Daniel Alsopp
- 20
- 21
- 22 Kevin Muscat
- 23 Michael Petkovic
- 24 Nick Orlic
- 25
- 26 George Tsianakas
- 27
- 28
- 29

BLUE SHIRTS, BLUE SHORTS, WHITE SOCKS

LIKELY LINE-UP

PETKOVIC

ORLIC

KNEZEVIC

MUSCAT

KUZMANOVIC

BLATIS

PETERSEN

COVENY

PANOPOULOS

TRIMBOLI

ALSOPP

COACH: Frank Arok

LAST SIX LEAGUE HOME GAMES

- v Brisbane Strikers (25.2.96) DREW 0-0
- v Marconi (11.12.96) LOST 1-4
- v UTS Olympic (4.2.96) WON 2-1
- v Wollongong City (29.12.95) WON 6-0
- v Adelaide City (23.12.95) WON 2-0
- v Morwell Falcons (16.12.95) DREW 2-2

LAST SEASON:

- South Melbourne 3 Morwell Falcons 3
- Morwell Falcons 2 South Melbourne 2

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LIKELY LINE-UP

KOURTIS

WADDELL

MILLER

CANOSA

MARCINA

SEVIN

BOTHWELL

TAPAI

REDA

MASI

SPINK

COACH: Harry Bingham

FALCONS SQUAD

Jim Kourtis	1
Doug Marcina	2
Claudio Canosa	3
Alex Cummings	4
Scott Miller	5
Ernie Tapai	6
Sonny Sevin	7
John Waddell (c)	8
Brian Bothwell	9
Carlo Talladira	10
Esala Masi	11
M Stergiopoulos	12
Carlo Villani	13
Michael Reda	14
Warren Spink	15
John Alesi	16
Sean Douglas	17
Shane Conkie	18
Justin Geri	19
Jason Dastey	20
David Clarkson	21
Robert Guarascio	22
David Craig	23
	24
	25
	26
	27
	28

LAST SIX LEAGUE AWAY GAMES

v Adelaide City (7.2.96) LOST 0-5
 v Newcastle Breakers (2.2.96) WON 2-1
 v West Adelaide (30.12.95) LOST 0-2
 v UTS Olympic (23.12.95) DREW 2-2
 v Wollongong City (8.12.95) WON 1-0
 v Canberra Cosmos (13.12.95) LOST 0-5

CURRENT FORM: South Melbourne's last home games have all been played against the leading three clubs in the league and the results (a win, a draw and a loss) would indicate that the side can play. On the other hand Morwell are struggling. The bold prediction? South 3 Falcons 0

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CANBERRA

GREY SHIRTS, SHORTS & SOCKS

LIKELY LINE-UP

GIANNASCA

KOCH

DEE

MAZIS

DUNN

WATSON

KELLY

ARMSTRONG

WADE

MUSITANO

PERINOVIC

COACH: Mike Lyons

CANBERRA SQUAD

Danny Milosevic	1
Paul Dee	2
Joe Gagetti	3
Richard Watson	4
Jason Dunn	5
Paul Wade (C)	6
Michael Garcia	7
Norman Kelly	8
Lachlan Armstrong	9
Marko Perinovic	10
Toplica Popovich	11
Arsenije Popovich	12
Paul Gagetti	13
Jimmy Baxter	14
Willie Hastie	15
Scott Conlon	16
Leo Langone	17
	18
	19
Ben Harris	20
John Koch	21
Michael Musitano	22
Stan Dukic	23
Tony Lemezina	24
Tony Giannasca	25
Gus Cerro	26
Peter Mazis	27
	28
Njegosh Popovic	29

LAST SIX LEAGUE AWAY GAMES

v Adelaide City (10.3.96)	LOST 0-6
v Morwell Falcons (2.3.96)	DREW 2-2
v Newcastle Breakers (16.2.96)	DREW 5-5
v West Adelaide (3.2.96)	LOST 1-2
v UTS Olympic (30.12.95)	LOST 0-2
v Wollongong City (22.12.95)	WON 3-1

CURRENT FORM: Eighteen goals against in six games (including five against minnows Newcastle) and on the other hand eleven scored. If you can fathom the Cosmos out then you will have succeeded where the opposition coaches fail. Prediction? South Melbourne 4 Canberra 2

BIG MATCH RESULTS

ERICSSON CUP

ROUND 25

Friday 15 March

Newcastle Breakers 0

West Adelaide 4

Venue: Breakers Stadium

Saturday 16 March

Canberra Cosmos 1

Wollongong City 0

Venue: Bruce Stadium

Morwell Falcons 1

UTS Olympic 1

Venue: Falcons Park

Sydney United 1

Brisbane Strikers 0

Venue: Croatian Sport Centre

Sunday 17 March

Melbourne Knights 0

Marconi-Fairfield 0

Venue: Croatian Sports Centre

Adelaide City 2

South Melbourne 1

Venue: Hindmarsh Stadium

ROUND 24

Marconi-Fairfield 2

Newcastle Breakers 1

Venue: Marconi Stadium

West Adelaide 3

Brisbane Strikers 0

Venue: Hindmarsh Stadium

Canberra Cosmos 1

Sydney United 1

Venue: Bruce Stadium

UTS Olympic 1

Melbourne Knights 1

Venue: Leichhardt Stadium

Wollongong 1

Adelaide City 3

Venue: Brandon Park



Ericsson Cup

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marconi Fairfield	25	14	6	5	45	26	48
UTS Olympic	25	13	6	6	44	32	45
Brisbane Strikers	25	12	5	8	39	28	41
Melbourne Knights	25	11	8	6	28	17	41
Sydney United	25	10	10	5	33	23	40
West Adelaide	25	12	4	9	38	31	40
Adelaide City	25	11	5	8	48	34	39
Morwell Falcons	24	8	6	10	28	42	30
South Melbourne	24	8	4	12	35	42	28
Canberra Cosmos	25	6	9	10	39	47	27
Newcastle Breakers	25	4	5	16	30	56	17
Wollongong City	25	4	3	18	24	53	15

* 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw

TABLE CORRECT AS AT 17 MARCH 1996

National Youth League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Melbourne	20	13	5	2	68	18	44
Green Gully	20	14	1	5	51	34	43
Melbourne Knights	20	11	4	5	59	37	37
Heidelberg United	20	10	6	4	47	32	36
VIS	19	19	4	5	48	25	34
Bulleen Lions	20	10	4	6	41	26	34
Melbourne zebras	20	7	7	6	36	36	28
Springvale City	20	7	6	7	30	40	27
Morwell Falcons	20	7	2	11	56	59	23
Altona Magic	20	5	2	13	20	48	17
Port Melbourne	19	2	1	16	20	49	7
North Geelong	20	1	2	17	10	82	5

ERICSSON CUP NOTICE

Entry inside the perimeter fence of the playing area is prohibited at all times and offenders will be prosecuted. All spectators are requested to vacate the ground within 15 minutes of the end of the final game.

Police may be requested to remove any unauthorised persons who remain after the stipulated time.

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 A v Morwell Falcons (13.10.95) WON 1-0
 A v Adelaide City (18.10.95) WON 2-1
 H v Canberra Cosmos (22.10.95) DREW 2-2
 A v Wollongong City (27.10.95) LOST 0-2
 H v Sydney United (5.11.95) LOST 0-2
 A v UTS Olympic (12.11.95) LOST 2-4
 A v Marconi-Fairfield (18.11.95) LOST 1-3
 H v West Adelaide (26.11.95) LOST 2-3
 A v Brisbane Strikers (2.12.95) LOST 0-3
 H v Newcastle Breakers (6.12.95) WON 3-1

ERICSSON CUP - SECOND PHASE

H v Melbourne Knights (10.12.95) WON 1-0
 H v Morwell Falcons (17.12.95) DREW 2-2
 H v Adelaide City (23.12.95) WON 2-0
 A v Canberra Cosmos (26.12.95) LOST 1-3
 H v Wollongong City (29.12.95) WON 6-0
 A v Sydney United (7.01.96) LOST 1-4
 H v UTS Olympic (4.02.96) WON 2-1
 H v Marconi-Fairfield (11.02.96) LOST 1-4
 A v West Adelaide (18.02.96) WON 2-0
 H v Brisbane Strikers (25.02.96) DREW 0-0
 A v Newcastle Breakers (1.03.96) LOST 2-4



ERICSSON CUP - THIRD PHASE

A v Melbourne Knights (10.03.96) DREW 1-1
 A v Adelaide City (17.03.96) LOST 1-2
 H v Morwell Falcons (20.03.96)
 H v Canberra Cosmos (24.03.96)
 A v Wollongong City (27.03.96)
 H v Sydney United (31.03.96)
 H v UTS Olympic (6.04.96)
 A v Marconi-Fairfield (8.04.96)
 H v West Adelaide (14.04.96)
 A v Brisbane Strikers (20.04.96)
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